



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 03/25/2015
Time: 02:00 PM
Location: 309
Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: HCR 190 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE HAWAII HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU AS A SANCTIONED SPORT.

**Purpose of
Resolution:**

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) does not support HCR 190 which requests the Department to examine the feasibility to establish Brazilian jiu-jitsu as a sanctioned sport. We offer the following comments.

The Department receives requests to start-up activities as sanctioned sports on an ongoing basis. Some examples of activities being advocated by individuals or groups include but are not limited to the following: surfing, boxing, eight-man football, and kayaking.

The Maui Interscholastic League (MIL) has implemented surfing and eight-man football as league sports, and Kau and Pahoia high schools on the Hawaii Island started eight-man football teams as well. However, these schools started and continue to maintain the activities without additional funding. Further, these schools did not have an eleven-man football team and had a small number of activities and student-athletes. Thus, their unique situations made it feasible for the schools to effectuate the change.

High school athletic directors with full sports programs maintain facilities schedules for practices and competitions; develop and monitor budgets for equipment and supplies, transportation, coaches' salaries; spearhead fundraising, and track a multitude of documents for both student-athletes and coaches. The Department offers over 50 teams statewide in junior varsity (JV) and varsity for 23 different sports on average. A high school with a full program of sports supports a total of about 56 teams in JV and varsity.

At this time, the Department is unable to expand its sanctioned sports offerings given the budgeted resources for athletics. If additional activities are proposed and implemented, high schools statewide would require additional resources and personnel.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.